

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A video decoder system for receiving a plurality of programs from corresponding program sources said system comprising:

an electronic program guide (EPG) means including a processor and stored program schedule, said RPG means operable by a user to select a program from said plurality of programs and to select a program processing function for said selected program;

a tuner operable by said processor to tune said video decoder to receive packetized information for said user selected program, including current time reference information from a corresponding program source, said current time reference information comprising System Time Table (SST) data of an MPEG compliant data stream, and wherein said stored program schedule is derived from an Event Information Table (EIT) of an MPEG compliant data stream;

a first time-of-day clock for timing said tuning in accordance with said stored program schedule;

said processor programmed to provide a second time-of-day clock based on said received current time information:

said processor initiating said user selected processing function based upon said second time-of-day clock.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said current time reference information provides a current time-of-day indication.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, including:

- a display for displaying a current time-of-day to a user;
- said second time clock providing an output for updating said displayed current time based upon said current time reference information; and
- a filter filtering said output such that any discontinuity in the current time reference information is prevented, and providing said filtered output to said display.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said user selected programming processing function is at least one selected from the group consisting of display, record, and playback.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein said group further comprises: program transmission, program standards conversion, program encryption, program decryption, program scrambling, program decoding.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said processor terminates said selected program processing function based upon said second time-of-day clock.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said System Time Table (STT) data includes a time reference indicator and associated correction data sufficient to establish a time of transmission of said program by said corresponding broadcast source accurate to within about plus or minus 4 seconds.